

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## INTRODUCING HOUSE RESOLUTION 188 URGING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO TAKE ACTION RE- GARDING THE ACQUISITION BY IRAN OF C-802 CRUISE MISSILES

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting today a resolution that calls upon the Clinton administration to take firm action against those responsible for providing dangerous C-802 cruise missiles to Iran.

The safety and security of American servicemen and women stationed in the Persian Gulf theater of operations are at stake. The acquisition of C-802 cruise missiles by Iran is a destabilizing development and constitutes a clear threat to peace in the region. This violates the provisions of the Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992, and, therefore, requires the President to levy sanctions against the provider of the cruise missiles—China. To date, the administration has done nothing. I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in calling on the executive branch to enforce the law with respect to the acquisition by Iran of these cruise missiles, and to take appropriate action against China for providing the weapons.

We all remember the tragic and deadly attack against the naval escort vessel U.S.S. *Stark* that occurred in the Persian Gulf in May 1987. A single cruise missile slammed into the frigate and killed 37 American sailors.

Today, 15,000 members of the United States Armed Forces are stationed in the Persian Gulf area, carrying out a variety of important foreign policy objectives: enforcing economic sanctions against Iraq; protecting United States and European aircraft that are patrolling the no-fly zone over southern Iraq; and, maintaining open sea lanes through the gulf. We owe it to our troops to minimize to the extent possible the threat they face as they conduct their mission. Prohibiting rogue regimes such as Iran from acquiring advanced conventional weapons must be a high foreign policy objective for the United States, to ensure the safety of American Armed Forces in the region.

In 1996, the China National Precision Machinery Import-Export Corp., a state-run enterprise, delivered 60 C-802 model cruise missiles to Iran. These missiles are mounted on patrol boats for use by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Navy. The China National Precision Machinery Import-Export Corp. markets the C-802 in its sales brochure as a missile with mighty attack capability and great firepower for use against escort vessels such as the U.S.S. *Stark*. This is the same company that supplied missile technology to Pakistan, a transaction that led the United States Government to impose economic sanctions for violating United States law and the international nonproliferation guidelines.

In addition, China reportedly is supplying Iran with a land-based version of the C-802 cruise missile. Iran has been constructing several sites along its coastlines to accommodate transporter-erector-launchers [TELS], from which the Iranian Revolutionary Guard can fire these cruise missiles at targets in both the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. The C-802 model cruise missile provides the Iranian military a weapon with greater range, accuracy, reliability, and mobility than it previously possessed.

In November 1996, Iran conducted land, sea, and air war games in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman and successfully test-fired a C-802 anti-ship cruise missile from one of its patrol boats. Adm. Scott Redd, the former commander-in-chief of the United States Fifth Fleet, said that the C-802 missiles give Iran a "360-degree threat which can come at you from basically anywhere." Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Einhorn told the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee on April 11, 1997, that the C-802 cruise missiles "pose new, direct threats to deployed United States forces."

The Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992—title XVI of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993—establishes United States policy to oppose any transfer to Iran of destabilizing numbers and types of advanced conventional weapons, including cruise missiles. The law requires the President to apply sanctions to "those nations and persons who assist [Iran] in acquiring weapons." The sanctions include a 1-year suspension of U.S. assistance to the offending country and a 2-year ban on the import of any goods produced by the company found in violation of the statute.

We know that China is responsible for the transfer of these cruise missiles to Iran. The President must impose the sanctions that are stipulated in the law.

To my dismay, the administration has concluded that the known transfers of C-802 cruise missiles from China to Iran are not of a destabilizing number and type and, therefore, require no enforcement of sanctions against China. Instead, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told a Senate Appropriations subcommittee in May 1997 that the administration has "deep concerns" about the acquisition of cruise missiles by Iran and will continue to review this development. I find this to be an unacceptable response.

While reasonable people can disagree over what constitutes destabilizing, there can be no argument that Iran has been engaged in a worrisome expansion of its conventional military capability, especially its navy. Iran has threatened to use its military power to close the Straits of Hormuz, disrupt international shipping, and challenge American forces active in the gulf. The Tehran government views the United States military as an unwelcome presence in the region. Our ships have had several close encounters with the Iranian navy in the past year. Fortunately these confrontations have remained small and contained.

As Elaine Sciolino points out in her April 20, 1997, article in the New York Times, the potential for real conflict between the United States and Iran is significant, "when two enemy navies with vastly different military missions and governments that do not talk to each other are crowded into such a small, highly strategic body of water." The acquisition by Iran of advanced cruise missiles, like the C-802 model, must be considered a serious threat to stability, given the explosive situation that already exists. Iran's intent seems clear to me: to challenge the United States for pre-dominance in the gulf.

Thus, the number of C-802 cruise missiles that Iran acquires becomes academic when considering application of the provisions of the Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act. Our men and women in uniform in the Persian Gulf now face a greater risk with at least 60 lethal cruise missiles targeted at them. The sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Stark* can remind us of the irreparable harm that one cruise missile can perform, let alone 60.

Other considerations aside, the law requires the administration to impose sanctions on China for its role in providing these weapons to Iran. I strongly recommend that the President consider applying sanctions against the Chinese Government, as spelled out in the statute, rather than only against the China National Precision Machinery Import-Export Corp. As a state-run enterprise, this company operates with Central Government complicity. Previous penalties by the U.S. Government against this corporation have not eliminated business dealings that are inimical to American security interests. The Chinese Government has sent us a message by permitting the sale of C-802 cruise missiles to Iran. It's time for the U.S. Government to deliver a crystal clear response.

Again, I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to support this resolution calling upon the Clinton administration to take appropriate action.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE LOWER EAST SIDE TENEMENT MUSEUM BILL

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, today I introduced a bill that would designate the Lower East Side Tenement Museum an affiliate of the National Park Service. The Tenement Museum is located at 97 Orchard Street in Manhattan's Lower East Side, the heart of America's immigrant tradition. This building was erected in 1863 and, over the course of 69 years, served as the first American home for thousands of immigrants from around the world.

Much of America's immigrant history begins in New York. The museum on Ellis Island explains how families from around the world

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

journeyed to and arrived in the United States. While many newcomers set out to settle our Nation's rural frontiers, many more became urban pioneers—men, women and children who settled in the city. For this reason the next chapter of the immigrant tale, their lives in America, deserves closer exploration and recognition. Thus, in seeking a home for this story, the Museum sought the quintessential expression of urban, immigrant life—the tenement.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum bill recognizes the museum's efforts to preserve, maintain, and interpret the themes of early tenement life, the housing reform movement, and tenement architecture in the United States. Affiliate status would allow this private nonprofit museum to fully participate in the programs and activities of the National Park Service while complementing the Park Services trinity of Ellis Island, Clinton Castle, and the Statue of Liberty at not cost to American taxpayers.

My colleagues, this legislation enjoys wide bipartisan support among the New York State delegation and is supported by the city and State of New York, as well as civic leaders, small business owners, organized labor, the Wall Street community, and the National Park. I urge all of you to support this national treasure.

#### TRIBUTE TO WJGA

#### HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a small town, community-minded radio station. Every morning in my hometown of Jackson, GA, something happens that is as anticipated as the sunrise. In fact, this daily ritual is shared by most of the residents of Jackson, one which reflects the tightness of its community bonds. Friendship like this can be found in all the facets of Jackson life, but especially when citizens tune into local radio station 92.1 FM, WJGA each day.

When the hands of local Georgians turn their radio dials to this station, the two men they hear in the morning don't echo the usual shock-jock type material that has come to characterize talk radio. Instead, audience members are treated to the down-home kindness of hosts Don Earnhart and Walter Carmichael. From these two, listeners are not only treated to the local news of Butts and Jasper counties, but also to the intangibles not measured by watt meters or ratings scales, things like friendship and allegiance.

Earnhart recently explained, "Our listeners get to know us." They do soon in much the same manner as two people sitting on a park bench talking about the day. Topics might concern the menu at a local cafe or the politics of a balanced budget. With a format that is comprised of completely live programming, these two wizards of the airwaves provide the one quality representative of friendship, personal attention. As Bill Osinski of the Atlanta Journal and Constitution recently said of this idea, "A radio station that respects its listeners—how refreshing." His enthusiasm for work has not faded after all these years, and with his wife Susanne working as the station's

business manager, the two not only make great radio, but a great team as well.

Now, as the world continues to move at such a brisk pace, it is also refreshing to note that there are some folks content to do things the old-fashioned way. They don't need flashy logos or slogans. They don't need absurd or appalling subject matter. They simply need people like Don Earnhart and Walter Carmichael, people who care enough to care for others. How refreshing indeed.

#### DEPOT-LEVEL MAINTENANCE

#### HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that clarifies the definition of depot-level maintenance and repair as the definition applies to the Army. The definition of depot-level maintenance currently included in the Department of Defense authorization bill should include conversions and modifications and I ask your support for such a change.

Section 333 of the Department of Defense authorization bill states:

Depot level maintenance and repair means material maintenance or repair requiring the overhaul, upgrading, or rebuilding of parts, assemblies, or subassemblies, and the testing and reclamation of equipment as necessary, regardless of the source of funds for the maintenance or repair.

I believe this definition is vague and unclear and could undermine current BRAC laws. Further, it could potentially be interpreted to change long-existing Army definitions, and devastate attempts to gain more workload at certain depots.

I cite an example of why this definition is necessary. In 1995 Red River Army Depot in my district was realigned by the base realignment and closure process. The BRAC law stated: "Move all maintenance missions except for that related to the Bradley Fighting Vehicle series to other depot maintenance activities including the private sector . . .", thus leaving all maintenance of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle at Red River Army Depot.

When I was elected to Congress, I sat down with the Army to discuss the situation at Red River. The Army told me that Red River was unable to perform conversions and modifications of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle because conversions and modifications are not part of depot maintenance. However, Army Regulation 750-2 of Army Materiel Maintenance Wholesale Operations defines depot maintenance as "that maintenance performed on materiel requiring major overhaul or a complete rebuild of parts, assemblies, subassemblies, and end items, including the manufacture of parts, *modifications and conversions*, testing and reclamation, as required. Depot maintenance serves to support lower categories of maintenance by providing technical assistance and performing that maintenance beyond their responsibility. Depot maintenance provides stocks of serviceable equipment by using more extensive facilities or repair than are available in lower level maintenance activities." (Emphasis Added.)

Clearly the law states that depot maintenance of Bradley Fighting Vehicles is to be

performed at Red River Army Depot. Since the Army definition of depot maintenance includes modification and conversions, any modification and/or conversion of the Bradley should be performed at Red River Army Depot. Mr. Speaker, this is why we need this legislation to clearly state what the Army can and cannot do and so it can follow its own regulations.

Depots are a vital part of our Nation's military and are essential to our military readiness. The Army currently has five maintenance depots, three of which are ground maintenance depots. More and more, each ground maintenance depot is becoming increasingly specialized.

Mr. Speaker, we need to make sure these depots operate efficiently, and that in a time of need we have dependable sources of repair for our military might.

It is clear that in the post-cold-war era our military readiness levels need to reflect the demise of the Warsaw Pact and other changes in the world. However, we need to fully assess the impact that closure and realignment decisions made to date have had on our current military readiness. To our knowledge, no report or complete assessment has been prepared on how base closures, which are currently being completed, have affected our military readiness. I believe that until such a report can be reviewed, it is unwise to recommend more base closures.

The four previous rounds of the base realignment and closure [BRAC] process have resulted in the closing of 97 defense installations in the United States. We are still unable to fully assess the actual savings, if any, generated from those base closures. For this reason, we know that if there are any savings generated from further rounds of base closures, those savings will not be realized for many years to come. Further, it is also necessary to realize the amount of money spent to close military facilities. By the year 2000, we will have spent approximately \$23 billion in cleanup and other costs associated with the closure of military installations.

The Quadrennial Defense Review claimed that in order to preserve combat capability and readiness, the services must compete, outsource, or privatize military department infrastructure functions that are closely related to commercial enterprises. The Secretary of Defense recently stated that "We need to deregulate defense just as we have deregulated many other American industries." However, our military is not just another American industry. The civilian and military employees who currently perform these functions are experienced, dedicated, and well-skilled individuals on whom our Nation can depend in time of war. The uncertainties we would face with an inexperienced, privatized work force, pressed into service on short notice, could be a tremendous detriment to our military readiness.

#### AMERICAN HEROES

#### HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of two American heroes—retired Col. Mitchell Paige, of the U.S. Marines and retired Col. Frederick T. Flo of the U.S. Army.

The veterans of America are the men and women deeply responsible for the great Nation we live in. The bravery, honor and dignity in which they bestowed their service in the hope of preserving democracy puts all Americans forever in their debt. From the Revolutionary War to Desert Storm, our Nation has relied on our soldiers to keep peace and promote freedom.

I am privileged to honor two of these heroes today before this Congress and the American people.

Today, Col. Mitchell Paige is retired in the great State of California, but in October of 1942 he fought valiantly to stop the Japanese attacks on the Matanikau River during World War II. Col. Paige was rewarded for his heroic action with the Medal of Honor. This Marine was acknowledged in several papers as single handedly securing the perimeter and preserving the lives of many Americans.

Col. Frederick Flo is also an American champion. In World War II he was deployed with the Army to the front lines. Colonel Flo volunteered to lead a patrol on a 125-mile reconnaissance behind Japanese lines with only 13 men in his company. His successful mission provided important information for his superior, General Vandergift, that may well have saved the lives of many Americans.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the American people and this Congress, I would like to formally congratulate these two men. They are genuine American heroes and deserve our recognition and faithful appreciation. I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize these two patriots today.

#### “REVERSE ROBIN HOOD BILL”

### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTIAN-GREEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, the Republican tax bill can only be viewed as a “reverse Robin Hood” bill, because it would hurt hard-working families, aspiring students, and the people of the territories of the United States.

Why is it that the deficit must only be reduced on the backs of those of us who are struggling everyday to survive, while those who could best afford to contribute more not only get away scot-free, but actually get more.

Mr. Speaker, the people whom I’m privileged to represent are among the 15 million who are cut out of the Republican led tax bill. Then, as if to add insult to injury, the tax bill further threatens to kill my district’s struggling tourism industry which provides our economic base and on which many Virgin Islanders and residents of other territories depend for a livelihood.

On behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands and the majority of Americans, I plead with the conference committee, to uphold the commitment of the budget agreement, to reject the tax on the domestic portion of international flights, and freeze the departure tax for the smaller members of the American family at the present level so that we can continue to be a refuge for many of those same hard-working Americans who visit us for a well-deserved vacation.

My colleagues, the people of the Virgin Islands survived Hurricanes Hugo and Marilyn,

but we could not withstand Hurricane airline tax.

#### HONORING ELIZABETH H. “BETTY” NORWORTH ON HER FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE FBI

### HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. BRYANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time to honor Mrs. Elizabeth H. Norworth, or “Betty,” as she is known by me and all of her friends. For the past 50 years she has served as an asset to the FBI’s Memphis office.

Betty began her service with the FBI on September 8, 1947 as a stenographer in Memphis, where she earned a \$2,168.28 per year salary. In 1951, she was promoted to stenographic supervisor. That same year, she married Ned Norworth, who remains her husband. Her steadfast dedication and performance led to a series of promotions including the position of secretary for the special agent in charge, a job she has masterfully handled since 1960. Through the last 16 special agents in charge and the past 37 years, she has perfected her position and learned just about everything that there is to know about the FBI. According to John Hancock, the current special agent in charge of the FBI’s Memphis office, Betty has basically been the sole trainer of all of the last 16 special agents in charge of the FBI’s Memphis office. One of those she trained and worked under was Clarence M. Kelly, the former Director of the FBI.

Mr. Speaker, I know Betty. We worked in the same office building when I was U.S. attorney, so I know how dedicated she has been and continues to be and what an asset she is, not only to the FBI, but to this great Nation. I am proud to recognize her here today.

#### THE EXPLOSION OF TWA FLIGHT 800; REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS AND FAMILY, PAYING TRIBUTE TO OUR COURAGEOUS AND CAR- ING VOLUNTEERS ON LONG IS- LAND

### HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in prayerful remembrance of the 230 people who lost their lives when TWA flight 800 crashed off the south shore of Long Island, near the small town of East Moriches, 1 year ago today.

I also ask that all Americans join us as we pray for the families and friends of the passengers and crew members who perished in the crash, that they might gain some measure of solace and understanding about their profound and so very public loss.

In one tragic moment on an otherwise ordinary summer evening, the lives of the surviving families and friends were plunged into a tumult of grief and confusion. We cannot imagine the soul-wrenching heartache and

numbing pain they faced in the minutes and days after news of their loss reached them. In the months that followed leading up to this anniversary, some have thankfully found healing grace they need in the personal bonds forged with the other surviving families.

We all grieve for their loss, but perhaps what still weighs most heavily on our hearts is that even after a year, there is still no clear answer as to what caused TWA flight 800 to explode in mid-air over the Atlantic Ocean. Since that fateful July evening, there have been several studies conducted and recommendations made about the ways we can make airline travel safer. Today, there is something that we, as a compassionate Congress, can do to spare the families any further pain. We can move quickly to approve the bill offered by our esteemed colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. MCDADE, a bill that corrects an egregious injustice that prevents the survivors of this or any plane crash over international waters to seek compensation for the pain, suffering and loss of a loved one, as the family of other airline disasters may do. This is a simple matter of fairness and small measure of justice that we can provide, in the memory of those who died aboard TWA flight 800.

Though the headlines tell us that 230 human beings lost their lives in this crash, they are more than just numbers. Each one of those 230 were someone’s son or daughter, wife or husband, brother, sister, and friend. And each of those aboard TWA flight 800 has a story. I would like to tell you about a few of my Long Island neighbors who perished aboard TWA flight 800.

Such as Eric and Virginia Holst, of Manorville. Just a few days away from their own sixth wedding anniversary they were on their way to Eric’s brother Troy’s Paris wedding. Eric was a dentist with a practice in the town of Center Moriches, just a few miles from the crash site. With special talent for easing the anxiety of a child’s first trip to the dentist, Eric Holst decorated his office with the cards and greetings from his youngest patients, who adoringly called him “Dr. Eric.” His parents, John and Joan Holst live in nearby St. James.

Virginia Holst was a partner with her mother, Luz Mari Pelaez, in a skin-care and nutritional products business that she operated out of her home. After having already bravely overcome thyroid cancer, Virginia, in the words of her mother, “got so strong, so full of energy and life, it was amazing. She had fought that war, and she won.”

Or the story of Beverly and Tracy Anne Hammer. Having just recently passed her stockbroker’s exam, Beverly overcame her fear of flying to join her daughter Tracy Anne in Paris, where the veterinary student was to deliver a research paper. Richard Hammer did not join his wife and daughter so that they could spend time together on a once-in-a-lifetime vacation in Europe. Today, he lives in East Hampton, Long Island.

At age 37, Donna Griffith had just begun a new life for herself. The Westhampton Beach native decided to celebrate her recent college graduation by taking her first trip to Europe. The Brooklyn resident was to start classes at New York University’s graduate school after her return.

Rico Puhlmann was an internationally renowned fashion photographer who split his

time between the bright lights of Manhattan and the quiet countryside of Water Mill, Long Island. A child film star in his native Germany, his oeuvre included 125 cover photographs for Harper's Bazaar and countless other covers for Gentlemen's Quarterly, Glamour, and Vogue.

In these tragic moments that TWA Flight 800 fell out of the sky, the communities of East Moriches and Montoursville, PA were inextricably linked. Aboard the flight were 16 high school students and five adult chaperons from the French club at Montoursville High School. Just minutes earlier, the students had embarked on the trip of their young lives as they headed off to Paris to test their hard-earned mastery of the French language and taste the rich French culture. Sadly, for the parents, family, and friends who said goodbye to them just a few minutes earlier, they never returned.

Though we can never forget those we lost aboard TWA flight 800, we can be proud of the many shining examples of humanity amidst this calamitous occurrence. The many local efforts on behalf of the search and rescue mission demonstrated to the entire world how Long Islanders respond in difficult times. It's sad that it takes these tragic events for use to see how selfless and enduring the human spirit can be.

From the moment the first calls came in from South Shore residents who witnessed the fiery explosion, hundreds of emergency service workers, Suffolk County police officers, firefighters, ambulance workers, Coast Guard personnel and units from the 106th New York Air National Guard unit in Westhampton Beach rushed to the scene in East Moriches, in a desperate search for survivors. Sadly, there were none.

Once the place crash had been confirmed, Suffolk County officials immediately went to a level two alert, notifying hospitals and public safety agencies. In the course of responding to the crash, Suffolk County and the towns of Brookhaven and Southampton incurred nearly \$6 million in equipment and overtime expenses. Though these huge costs drained the small budgets of these local governments, County Executive Robert Gaffney and Town Supervisors Felix Grucci and Vincent Cannuscio never hesitated to commit their official resources to the rescue and recovery effort.

We can be most proud of the hundreds of volunteers of all stripes who left their homes in the dark of night to lend a hand to the effort. They included ambulance companies from 15 communities, volunteer firefighters from a dozen fire departments and even local residents in their own pleasure boats who pitched in to assist the fruitless search for survivors and recovery of plane parts.

I would also like to give notice to the men and women of the Coast Guard Group Moriches, at East Moriches. Led by Comdr. Elmo Peters, these Coast Guard personnel performed with the utmost professionalism and courage in handling the extensive search and rescue operations, and they deserve our thanks and prayers as well. Incredibly, just a few months earlier there was a proposal to eliminate the Coast Guard Rescue Unit at East Moriches, a plan that thankfully was never approved.

As we have come to expect when calamity strikes any corner of the world, Red Cross vol-

unteers can be found, comforting the stricken while giving aid to the rescuers. From the early moments of this tragedy, Red Cross volunteers from across the New York metropolitan region were on the scene, delivering food and drink, medical care, cots, blankets, and tents. In the first week after the crash, the Red Cross served more than 19,000 meals to emergency workers, the media and others at the scene. Throughout this ordeal, these Red Cross volunteers showed once again why they are truly angels of mercy.

Red Cross grief counselors comforted the victim's family dealing with the sudden, tragic loss of a loved one. They arranged to have needed prescriptions delivered to where the families stayed, brought coloring books and games for the children and even provided notebooks for family members who wanted to express their feelings by keeping a journal. Volunteers also traveled with the families as they attended memorial services at Suffolk County's Smith Point Park and at JFK Airport.

There are so many others who deserve recognition for their tireless efforts in response to this tragic event. They include the New York City and State Police departments, Red Cross volunteers from throughout the New York metro region, the Suffolk County medical examiners office, the Brookhaven Ambulance Corps, and many local churches and organizations, too numerous to mention.

The tremendous outpouring of love and support these great Americans showed in this desperate time of need provide us with one of the few measures of solace that we can take from this tragedy. All of us on Long Island should take special pride in the efforts shown by our local disaster officials and emergency personnel and the hundreds who volunteered their time to help find survivors and collect debris. Though our hearts break with the sorrow we feel for the victims and their grieving loved ones, we can be proud of these wonderful displays of humanity.

All of those emergency workers and caring volunteers responded to this tragedy in different ways, each with something special to offer. Some came to aid the recovery of victims or gather pieces of the wreckage, while others came to support those rescue workers with food and equipment. At the Coast Guard station, mental health professionals provided around the clock trauma counseling to help the crash-site personnel cope with the difficult task of recovering victims from the wreckage.

So many wanted to come to the scene in East Moriches and offer their help. But the only thing for them to do was to pray for the victims and their grieving loved ones. Ultimately, prayer was the most important thing they could offer. Gathering at several memorial services, our friends and neighbors on Long Island came to pray for those 230 victims and for their loved ones, who desperately needed time and God's healing power to overcome their deep sorrow and devastating loss.

The first memorial service was held in Montoursville just after the crash, as the citizens of this small Pennsylvania town said goodbye to their sons and daughters, their classmates, friends, and neighbors.

The Sunday following the crash, there were simultaneous memorial services held in East Moriches and at John F. Kennedy Airport in Queens, along with the thousands of people across the country who gathered in their own houses of worship to remember those who died in the sudden, furious explosion.

At Soldiers and Sailors Park in East Moriches, more than 400 people gathered to pay their final respects to those 230 passengers and crew members, including their neighbors Eric and Virginia Holst. The feelings of grief and loss were palpable among the mourners, but as Rev. James McDonald, who married Eric and Virginia 6 years ago, explained, despair will not vanquish their faith and love. As Reverend McDonald said: "Nothing can separate us from the life of Christ, not even a broken heart. Are we hurting? Yes. Broken? Yes. Destroyed? Never."

At JFK, more than 2,000 mourners, many of them family and friends awaiting news of loved ones, gathered in a sad, gray airplane hangar to say their goodbyes. One by one, the names of the 230 dead were read aloud as family and friends reached out to console each other in French, Hebrew, Italian, and English. As Rabbi Joseph Potasnik of the New York Board of Rabbis so eloquently put it: "We may be of different bodies, but in this community today, we are of one soul."

Mr. Speaker, as we stand here today a full year later, let us keep in our prayers the 230 lives that were lost on July 17, 1996. Just as importantly, let us remember the family, friends, and spouses that were left behind to cope with this senseless tragedy. May God bless every one of them.

#### JUVENILE CRIME CONTROL AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 1997*

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 1818, the Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act. This important bipartisan effort would reauthorize the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act of 1974 [Public Law 93-415]. H.R. 1818 represents a balanced approach to reducing juvenile crime.

The prevalence of violent crime among our Nation's youth is entirely too high. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, young people are committing violent crimes at a rate similar to 10 years ago—however, the violence has intensified and is causing more deaths. In fact, between 1991 and 1995, the number of juveniles arrested for violent crimes increased by 12 percent, yet violent crime arrests for all ages increased by 2.5 percent. And, between 1985 and 1994, the number of juveniles arrested for weapon violations, specifically related to increases in firearm usage in violent crimes, rose by 113 percent. Equally disturbing is the fact while African-Americans represent 12 percent of the United States' population, African-American youth are nearly 28 percent of all juvenile arrests.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1818 focuses in reducing the number of children and youth who commit criminal acts of violence. As such, it ensures that juvenile crime prevention efforts are targeted at communities experiencing a disproportionate representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system. It is well documented that programs that provide: Treatment to victims of child abuse or neglect, mentoring,

peer counseling and teaching, job training and employment, and other such services are an essential investment in the effort to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act. Vote "yes" for H.R. 1818.

IN HONOR OF THE SPONSORS OF  
PROJECT CHILDREN '97: LOCAL  
MESSENGERS OF PEACE

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique group of people, the sponsors of Project Children '97 who have distinguished themselves with unwavering dedication to the promotion of peace in Northern Ireland. Through their generous spirit of compassion, the Project Children '97 sponsors exemplify the best that we as Americans have to offer: reverence for the rights and freedom of the individual citizens. For 22 years caring American families have welcomed children from Northern Ireland into their homes and hearts for 6 weeks during what is traditionally the most violent time of year in the children's homeland.

One year ago, the children who came to visit us from Northern Ireland faced an uncertain future. The cherished cease-fire, in effect for 18 months, had been shattered by a new round of violence. Though the past year has seen a continuation of the troubles, British Prime Minister Tony Blair's inclusion of Sinn Fein in peace talks, along with the cancellation of four of Northern Ireland's Orange Order parades are hopeful signs that we will soon see a return to a lasting ceasefire. This makes the time shared by the 56 families and 61 children participating in Project Children '97 even more valuable.

This year, the 56 families from my home State of New Jersey who have been so generous as to open their homes and their lives to these young people include: Kourosh and Rosemary Akhavan, Len and Kathy Ancuta, Sean and Beatris Ashe, Garry and Janet Baker, Gary and Linda Bardzell, Charles and June Bray, Michael and Elizabeth Cancian, Kevin and Patricia Comer, Robert and Barbara Comito, James and Patti Cunningham, Philip and Kathleen DiCicco, Donald and Irene Diverio, Robert and Brianna Donohue, Al and Ellen Dorso, Peter and Robin DuHaine, Brent and Lauren Elliot, Rick and Arlene Faustini, Raymond and Rosemary Ferraro, Robert and Elizabeth Gamble, Margaret Gilsenan, Michael and Pat Goodwin, William and Margaret Giaimo/Terry, Edward and Patricia Grzybowski, George and Margaret Hughes, Edwin and Patricia Jankowski, Nicholas and Patricia Kaminsky, Keith and Karen Kirby, Robert and Donna Lee, Michael and Kathleen McBride, John and Louise McGlinchey, Brian and Lori McGorty, Robert and Dyan Moore, Robert and Carole Nyman, Sean and Anne O'Neill, Kevin and Susan O'Shea, David and Cathleen Quinn, Stephen and Jean Revis, John and Lori Rose, James and Mary Ellen Ruitenberg, Paul and Candace Ruitenberg III, Donald and Patricia Ryerson, Guy and Patti

Schweizer, Stephen and Catherine Simpson, Michael and Laura Sims, Cheryl Stone, Douglas and Susanna Stroud, James and Louise Sweeney, Robert and Denise Thompson, Jr., Michael and Anne Tizio, Edward and Judith Wagner, Joseph and Barbara Wells, Craig and Barbara Yeske, Anthony and Anita Zak, Rodney and Linda Bialko, and Grianna and Donald Wynne.

The 61 young people from Northern Ireland who we have been fortunate enough to visit New Jersey are: David Sterrett, John McIlveen, Alannah Massey, Gerald O'Reilly, Lesley Black, Steven Orr, Paul Mahony, Ryan Corbett, Kevin Nellins, Elaine Coyle, Charlene McWilliams, Lindsey Todd, Eilish Bradley, Joseph McGovern, Claire McKinley, Joseph Doak, Eva Taggart, Laura Cairns, Linzi Graham, Joseph Gillen, Seamus Nellins, Michael Duffy, Catriona McCann, Ita Monaghan, Daniel Lynch, Christine Brown, Aislinn Devlin, Stephanie Rae, Aine Hargey, Natalia McKeown, Aisling Burns, Seadhna Billings, Dermot Hartigan, Nicola Catney, Leigh Martin, Mary Louise Heatley, Clara Mulvenna, Danielle Gorman, Brenda Austin, Barry Dobbin, David Goodall, Laura Baird, Paul Willis, Catherine Crawford, Sara Doherty, Kerry-Marie McCaugherty, Jennifer Dixon, Nicola McCabe, Kenneth Murphy, Marie Martin, Darren Diamond, David Diamond, Stephen Coyle, Robert O'Neill, James Moran, Elaine Murray, Margaret White, Mary Deery, Natasha McConnell, Michelle Donnelly, and Collette McTernan.

It is an honor to recognize the exceptional compassion of Project Children '97's sponsors. I hope that word of their steps toward peace will spread throughout Northern Ireland and the world. These exemplary individuals are truly local messengers of lasting peace.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112 IN SUPPORT OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS ON JULY 9, 1997

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the plight of Holocaust survivors around the world. More than 50 years ago, we witnessed one of the most tragic episodes in the history of man's inhumanity to man—the slaughter of 6 million Jews and millions of others in Eastern and Central Europe during World War II. Some were able to hide or escape death, many with lingering memories and medical conditions that will be with them for life.

There are currently more than 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world. It is these survivors who in many cases are still struggling to live out their remaining years with dignity. Many of them live in my district and have contacted me for help after being denied assistance from the current reparations' system set up to help Holocaust survivors.

Let me tell you about one of my constituents, a Holocaust survivor currently living in New York City. Dr. Hadassah Bimko Rosensaft survived concentration camps at both Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. While in-

terned, she contracted malaria and hepatitis. Unfortunately, because these diseases were not treated at the time, Dr. Rosensaft now suffers from severe cirrhosis of the liver. Although several medical experts support her claim that the condition stems from her imprisonment in Nazi Germany, the German Government says she cannot sufficiently prove that her condition is a direct consequence.

Dr. Rosensaft is fortunate to be able to afford her needed medical care with the help of her family. But her story is somewhat unique. Many other victims of Nazi horrors have been deemed wholly ineligible for reparations, and cannot rely on their families to help support them. These include, people who were in forced-labor camps; people who were confined to areas not recognized by Germany as ghettos; people who hid under false names; and people who were in a concentration camp for fewer than 6 months. In fact, even if someone was interned in two separate camps for 3 and 4 months each, that person may not qualify. In many cases, it is impossible for Holocaust survivors to prove the circumstances under which they acted during the Holocaust. I believe it is unjust to ask elderly people—with permanent injuries, who suffered enormous emotional trauma—to document their life half a century ago.

Many Holocaust survivors who were fortunate enough to avoid death camps during World War II were forced into hiding. A second reparations' provision states that if you were forced into hiding, you are eligible for reparations only if you hid for 18 months, and only if you can document and support your claim.

Learning about these onerous restrictions and the ongoing denial of Holocaust survivors' claims led me to introduce legislation in the 104th Congress calling on the German Government to expand and simplify its reparations' system. I am encouraged by recent reports by the World Jewish Congress that the German Government has announced its willingness to reopen negotiations. This is a very encouraging step in the fight for justice for Holocaust survivors. But it is only a beginning.

I am also concerned about the so-called double victims, who are now living in the former Communist States of Eastern and Central Europe. For years as the reparations' system was developed, these double victims did not have access to the system, and have been victimized twice by being denied access to reparations' today. Many of these people were in hiding. Many used false names to escape from the Nazis. Today, in order to qualify for reparations under the current system, survivors must provide proof of what they did and how they escaped. Many are still living in this part of the world and many are suffering from severe medical ailments. Although some have received a token amount of reparations, tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe have never received any reparations.

I am pleased to introduce House Concurrent Resolution 112, a resolution calling on the German Government to expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors. I am pleased to introduce this resolution with the support of International Relations Committee Chairman BENJAMIN GILMAN and committee

members ROBERT WEXLER of Florida, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN of Florida, and SAM GEJDENSON of Connecticut, along with Congressman MARTIN FROST of Texas.

To add insult to injury, recent news reports have uncovered that former members of the Nazi army, including non-German members of the SS, often receive far more generous pensions than do the victims they persecuted. Some of the people who receive German veteran pensions are known killers or were personally responsible in acts of genocide. Meanwhile, Holocaust survivors, many of whom are unable to afford the medical care they desperately need, must battle onerous restrictions and regulations in order to receive their meager benefits.

One example is the case of Wolfgang Lehnigk-Emden. This former Nazi guard murdered 15 women and children in Italy in 1943. Because he was later shot in the leg and suffers a mild disability, he now receives a generous pension—a pension three times what is given to Holocaust survivors—because he is considered a war victim. This is but one example of Germany's hypocrisy. Another example is the story of former SS Guard Wilhelm Mohnke.

According to the Department of Justice, Mr. Mohnke was personally involved in the massacre of 72 American POW's in 1944. Due to injuries he later sustained, the German Government gives Wilhelm Mohnke a war victim's pension equivalent to \$560 per month.

Many people have been instrumental in the fight for justice for all Holocaust survivors around the world. Menachem Rosensaft, Founding Chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and its president Rositta Ehrlich Kenigsberg have worked tirelessly on their crusade for survivors' rights. Benjamin Meed, president of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors has also worked tirelessly on behalf of Holocaust survivors worldwide. I am forever indebted to each of them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, Holocaust survivors are an aging, finite population, who are not asking for much. I believe that these survivors deserve sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivors are forced to live in conditions worse than those generally enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

TEXT OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112,  
INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN  
B. MALONEY

A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the German Government should expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors

Whereas the annihilation of six million European Jews during the Holocaust and the murder of millions of others by the Nazi German state constituted one of the most tragic episodes in the history of man's inhumanity to man;

Whereas there are more than 125,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world;

Whereas aging Holocaust survivors throughout the world are still suffering from permanent injuries suffered at the hands of the Nazis and many are unable to afford critically needed medical care;

Whereas while the German government has attempted to address the needs of Holocaust

survivors, many are excluded from reparations because of the onerous eligibility requirements imposed by the German government;

Whereas the German government routinely rejects survivors' claims on the ground that the survivor did not present the claim correctly or in a timely fashion, that the survivor cannot demonstrate to the Government's satisfaction that a particular illness or medical condition is the direct consequence of persecution in a Nazi-created ghetto or concentration camp, or that the German authorities do not consider the survivor is not considered sufficiently destitute;

Whereas tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other formerly Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe have never received reparations from Germany and a smaller number has received a token amount;

Whereas after more than 50 years, hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors continue to be denied justice and compensation from the German government;

Whereas the German government is paying generous disability pensions to veterans of the Nazi armed forces, including non-German veterans of the Waffen-SS.

Whereas in 1996, the German government paid \$7.7 billion in such pensions to 1.1 million veterans, including 3,000 veterans and their dependents now living in the United States;

Whereas such pensions are a veteran's benefit provided over and above the full health coverage that all German citizens, including veterans of the Waffen-SS, receive from their government; and

Whereas it is abhorrent that Holocaust survivors should live out their remaining years in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them;

Therefore be it resolved that it is the sense of the Congress that:

The German government should expand and simplify its system of reparations so that all survivors of the Holocaust can receive reparations, regardless of their nationality, length or place of internment, or their current financial situation;

The German government should provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union and other former Communist countries in Eastern and Central Europe;

The German government should fulfill its responsibilities to victims of the Holocaust and immediately set up a comprehensive medical fund to cover medical expenses of Holocaust survivors worldwide; and

The German government should help restore the dignity of Holocaust survivors by paying them sufficient reparations to ensure that no Holocaust survivor be forced by poverty to live in conditions worse than those enjoyed by the surviving former Nazis who persecuted them.

#### AMIA TERRORIST BOMBING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this week is the third anniversary of the terrible destructive AMIA terrorist bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This deadly international terrorist attack, directed at the very heart of the Jewish center of life in

Argentina, took 86 lives, and wounded more than 300 innocents. It has badly shaken the confidence of the largest Jewish community in Latin America on the critical issue of their very safety and security.

It is essential for the Argentine authorities, the U.S. Government, and the world community to do all we can both individually and collectively to bring to justice those who undertook this deadly and cowardly terrorist act.

Hizballah, with its known links to Iran, and which our Government and others have indicated were responsible for this AMIA attack, is now clearly operating in our own hemisphere. We are all at risk. We must all work to insure that those responsible for this terrorist act are brought to justice and that the message is clearly sent that terrorism, no matter where or why, will not go unpunished by civilized society.

Our International Relations Committee staff have visited Argentina in an effort to see what more the United States can do to help solve this terrorist bombing. Based on our staff inquiry, the committee asked that the State Department, which runs a very effective international terrorist rewards program, have its experts visit Argentina and offer assistance. We now have offered to help the Argentine authorities develop a meaningful and effective publicity program for their own already announced terrorist reward for help in solving this deadly AMIA attack.

We anxiously await the further publication and distribution of additional material and efforts by Argentina to publicize the reward on the AMIA attack. As we know, our own reward efforts along these lines have played a critical role in solving or bringing to justice individuals from around the globe involved in international terrorist attacks directed at the United States.

#### COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF MEGAN ILYSSA LEON

**HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Leon family on the birth of their daughter, Megan Ilyssa. She was born July 10, weighing 8 pounds 10 ounces. I am sure that Megan's parents and grandparents are excited to see that she is a healthy, happy child.

Megan's family has been in Massachusetts for more than a century now and were often involved in the world of politics. Her great, great, great grandfather, John Joseph Tobin, was one of the first Irishmen ever elected to the Boston City Council. Megan's great grandfather, John Michael Downing, served as the court officer of the Massachusetts State Senate for many years. Her grandmother, Kathleen Patricia Leon, was appointed to the Massachusetts Equal Educational Opportunity Commission by Gov. Michael Dukakis.

I offer my warmest wishes to Megan for a happy and healthy life. And, I look forward to one day seeing her involved in our Nation's political process.



TRIBUTE TO THE 7TH GREAT DOMINICAN PARADE AND CARNAVAL OF THE BRONX

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize the Great Dominican Parade and Carnival of the Bronx on its seventh year of celebrating Dominican culture in my South Bronx congressional district.

Under its founder and president Felipe Febles, the parade has grown in size and splendor. It now brings together an increasing number of participants from all five New York City boroughs and beyond.

On Sunday, thousands of members and friends of the Dominican community will march along the grand concourse in honor of Juan Pablo Duarte, the father of the independence of the Dominican Republic.

The event will feature a wide variety of entertainment for all age groups. This year's festival includes the performance of Merengue and Salsa bands, crafts exhibitions, and food typical of the Dominican Republic.

In addition to the parade, President Febles and many organizers have provided the community with nearly 2 weeks of activities to commemorate the contributions of the Dominican community, its culture, and history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful celebration of Dominican culture, which has brought much pride to the Bronx community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN NEFF

**HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my friend and associate, Mr. John Neff. I would like to acknowledge John on his retirement after 32 years of dedicated service to Frankford Hospital. John has truly reshaped the hospital, and moved it to the forefront of modern health care.

When John first came to Frankford Hospital in 1965, it consisted of a single, extremely outdated facility. As he retires, we can see the transformation that he has created. Thirty-two years later, the hospital is a contemporary health system, with five state-of-the-art facilities. Throughout his tenure, John focused on using change as a catalyst to see the hospital's objective of service come to fruition. With his fingers on the pulse of innovation, he is leaving Frankford Hospital poised to meet the demands of a new era in health care.

When John first came to Frankford Hospital in 1965, it consisted of a single, extremely outdated facility. As he retires, we can see the transformation that he has created. Thirty-two years later, the hospital is a contemporary health system, with five state-of-the-art facilities. Throughout his tenure, John focused on using change as a catalyst to see the hospital's objective of service come to fruition. With his fingers on the pulse of innovation, he is leaving Frankford Hospital poised to meet the demands of a new era in health care.

John has always agreed with me that the needs of seniors in Philadelphia are of utmost importance, and has continued to work to provide quality health care for seniors in our community. As a member of the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, he has worked in conjunction with this group to see that health care in Philadelphia maintains the necessary components of superior care for its patients.

Not only has John changed the care side of the hospital, but he has also changed the way

in which it dealt with employees. When employees of the hospital speak about John, they often use the words kind, compassionate, and open. He has developed a feeling of fellowship and community within the hospital, with the staff describing John and other members as family.

As John moves on to a time in his life where he can devote himself to his other great passions: family, grandchildren, flying, and golf, I congratulate him on 32 years of unwavering service and dedication to Frankford Hospital and the people of Philadelphia. John is a model of perseverance and true dedication. He has taken the lead without apprehension, and challenged the status quo. With great respect, I wish to honor and applaud my friend and colleague. May he have continued success.

IN HONOR OF BILL COBANE: AN EXEMPLARY INDIVIDUAL; A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William Cobane, a special gentleman who has distinguished himself through his outstanding dedication to my district. He served as an intern in my office, and excelled to become a congressional staff member who served my constituents earnestly and without desire of reward. In recognition of his dedicated service, I would like to honor Mr. Cobane for his exceptional voluntary service and efforts on behalf of the Sixth Annual Project Children Luncheon on July 21, 1997 at O'Donoghue's Pub in Hoboken, NJ.

Tradition and excellence are key words describing this truly dedicated citizen. Mr. Cobane has worked extensively on the Project Children benefit—an organization committed to promoting peace in Northern Ireland. This organization annually brings children from Northern Ireland to spend part of their summer in America with host families. Driven by his Irish roots, Bill Cobane works to make sure these children have the wonderful opportunity to experience and enjoy this time in America, and away from the violence in their homeland.

His hard work and commitment to the event has benefited the lives of many young children from Northern Ireland. He has dedicated much of his time and efforts toward the success of this special event.

Mr. Cobane's work and dedication are an example of his loyal and committed service to others. His volunteerism demonstrates his dedication to his community and his stature as a model citizen. His service to my district will always stand as a shining example for others. I am proud to have such a caring individual work on the Project Children Luncheon.

WAS JOHN HUANG DEBRIEFED?

**HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, our worst fears about the depth and significance of the administration's scandals are being realized.

Is there anyone who still thinks this is just about campaign finance reform? We read in today's Washington Post column of Robert D. Novak the headline "Was John Huang Debriefed?" Was he, indeed? I raised this question quite some time ago with Commerce Secretary Daley and was met with the delays and stonewalling that have characterized this administration. What else are we to conclude, but that at the very least when it comes to Mr. Huang and security matters this administration has something to hide.

I place the Novak column in today's RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, July 17, 1997]

WAS JOHN HUANG DEBRIEFED?

(By Robert D. Novak)

A previously missing government form that should have indicated whether John Huang was debriefed by a security officer before he left the Commerce Department two years ago turned up last Friday. But the place where the now infamous Democratic fund-raiser was supposed to have signed is blank.

Any government official with top-secret access—Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce Huang included—must attest to the return of all classified information when debriefed as he leaves the government. But Huang's unsigned debriefing document underlines questions about what he did with government secrets and how well they were protected.

Complete answers can come only from investigators with subpoena powers. Contrary to the White House mantra, current Senate hearings concern much more than campaign finance reform—such as Huang's security clearance, dubious on its face. Immediately following CIA briefings, Huang would regularly contact the Chinese Embassy. Yet, even after resigning from the government and going to the Democratic National Committee (DNC), he received another security clearance. The CIA, which had given him documents, was not alerted to Huang's change of status.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, the conservative weekly Human Events several weeks ago obtained from the Commerce Department Huang's "Separation Clearance Certificate," noting that his "effective date of separation" was Jan. 17, 1995 (though he actually went to the DNC in December). Commerce officials signed the document on Jan. 22, noting Huang's return of government charge cards, his parking permit and his diplomatic passport. "Security debriefing and credentials" was noted and signed by a Commerce Department security officer named Robert W. Mack.

At that debriefing, Huang should have signed a Standard Form 312 acknowledging return of classified material. But an official Commerce spokesman told Human Events editor Terrence Jeffrey two weeks ago: "The recollection of our security personnel is that he [Huang] was debriefed but that a Standard Form 312 has not been located."

What's more, there are indications it was never given to congressional investigating committees. On July 3, Rep. Jerry Solomon (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Rules Committee, wrote Commerce Secretary William Daley demanding the Form 312 by July 9.

That deadline came and went, but late on Friday, July 11, the piece of paper was dispatched to Solomon. It showed that on July 18, 1994, Huang signed for his security briefing. But Huang never signed the debriefing acknowledgment that "I have returned all classified information in my custody."

If security officer Mack signed off for the debriefing, why didn't Huang? "For reasons

that we have not determined," Commerce press officer Maria Cardona told me. I called Mack himself, but he said he could not reply. "When you're as low on the totem pole as I am . . ." he said, trailing off.

However, an unsigned Commerce document of Dec. 9, 1996, supplied to Solomon earlier this year, quotes Mack as saying that "he personally briefed Huang and had him sign a SF-312" in July 1994 but adds: "Mack has no recall of the debriefing" the following January. The memorandum continues that "he does recall" a call from a high-ranking official "to make sure that Huang did not lose his top-secret clearance" but kept it as a "consultant."

"Mack said to the best of his knowledge, Huang never worked as a consultant, but DISCO [Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office] did issue a top-secret clearance to Huang. . . . DISCO has never been notified to cancel the clearance," the memo continued. The memo writer said the clearance, issued on Dec. 14, 1995, was still valid on Dec. 9, 1996.

Yet another mysterious document: Commerce security officer Richard Duncan—Mack's colleague—on Feb. 13, 1995, wrote an internal memo listing Huang among other officials as signing SF-312s. Was this an attempt to create a paper trail?

This is the curious conclusion of John Huang's access to secret information. It began with the official request Jan. 31, 1994 that the required background investigation for Huang be waived because of "the critical need for his expertise . . . by Secretary [Ron] Brown." When Huang resigned a year later, Assistant Secretary Charles Meissner proposed the consultant's role, in order for Huang to retain access to classified documents. Brown and Meissner both perished in the tragic plane crash in Croatia, but their patronage of John Huang remains a fit subject for scrutiny.

## THE ON-LINE COPYRIGHT LIABILITY LIMITATION ACT

**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, the On-Line Copyright Liability Limitation Act is being introduced in response to concerns raised by a number of on-line service and Internet access providers regarding their potential liability for copyright infringement when infringing material is transmitted on-line through their services. While several judicially created doctrines currently address the question of when liability is appropriate, providers have sought greater certainty through legislation as to how these doctrines will apply in the digital environment. Undoubtedly, service providers will be concerned that the exemption contained in this bill does not go far enough and copyright owners will be concerned that it goes too far. This bill is meant to be a new starting point for discussion among the groups affected by its provisions.

BOB GOODLATTE of Virginia invested months of his time in the last Congress leading negotiation sessions between on-line service and Internet access providers, telephone companies, libraries, universities, and copyright owners. He will continue to steer the negotiation process in this Congress as the parties involved begin discussions starting from the framework established in the On-Line Copyright Liability Limitation Act.

### GENERAL APPROACH

The general approach of the bill is to be as simple and streamlined as possible. It provides a single exemption, written broadly so as to cover a range of acts dealt with in separate exemptions in drafts under discussion last year. The availability of the exemption depends on the actor's level of control, participation, and knowledge of the infringement, rather than on the particular type of technology used or the particular type of business being conducted. Similarly, the exemption is available to any person engaging in the covered activity, not limited to those falling within a defined category of "service provider."

A decision was made not to attempt to codify industry-specific codes of conduct or detailed notification procedures at this time. The bill does not foreclose these possibilities, however, should the parties who will be affected directly by the provisions of this bill concur that they are desirable. It also provides certain legal protections for parties who act responsibly to assist in preventing infringement.

### SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

#### SEC. 1 SHORT TITLE

This act may be referred to as the "On-Line Copyright Liability Limitation Act".

#### SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY

Paragraph (a) would amend Chapter 5 of Title 17, U.S. Code, the chapter setting out what constitutes infringement and establishing remedies, to add a new section 512, entitled "Limitations on liability relating to material on-line." Paragraph (a) contains the substance of the new exemption.

Paragraph (a)(1) provides an exemption from both liability for direct infringement and vicarious liability, based solely on acts of transmitting or otherwise providing access to material online, if certain criteria are met. The exemption does not specify any particular right of the copyright owner under section 106; it would excuse the infringement of any of the rights.

If a person making use of copyrighted material on-line does not qualify for the exemption because of a failure to fall within one or more of the criteria, that does not mean that the person is necessarily liable for infringement. If the exemption does not apply, the doctrines of existing law will come into play, and liability will only attach to the extent that the court finds that the requirements for direct infringement, contributory infringement or vicarious liability have been met, and the conduct is not excused by any other exception or limitation.

"Transmitting" refers to moving material from one place to another so that it is received beyond the place from which it is sent. "Providing access" is a broader term; it could be accomplished by transmitting or by otherwise placing material on-line in a location where individuals may gain access to it on demand. The terms "transmitting" and "providing access" are intended to cover any means of accomplishing these acts. Such means could include any of the following: the carriage and routing of telecommunications signals; the services of on-line service providers or Internet access providers; the operation of bulletin boards; and the sending of private electronic or real-time communications.

The term "solely" is intended to make clear that the exemption applies only to the acts of transmission or providing access in themselves. If the person engaging in these acts also makes further use of the copyrighted material, such as making additional copies or using copies for other purposes, the exemption will not apply.

### CRITERIA

The exemption is aimed essentially at passive, intermediary types of conduct. The criteria determining its applicability are adapted from a combination of case law and prior discussions of the issue in Congress in the last session. Some of the concepts are similar to those specified in the "passive carrier" exemption in section 111(a)(3) of the Copyright Act.<sup>1</sup> The overall goal is to exempt conduct where liability does not seem appropriate because of a low level of participation, control and knowledge, while at the same time ensuring that adequate incentives remain to assist copyright owners in preventing infringement, without ensuring that adequate incentives remain to assist copyright owners in preventing infringement, without obligating service providers generally to monitor or police communications over the Internet.

The failure to meet any one of the criteria would disqualify a person from the benefit of the exemption, since the person would then be performing a more active or knowledgeable role in distributing the infringing material. The ordinary rules of respondeat superior and enterprise liability would determine whether conduct by someone acting on behalf of the person seeking the exemption is attributed to that person.

The first three criteria all relate to the concept of acting as an intermediary in the chain of dissemination, rather than an initiator or director of the dissemination of the material.

#### Subparagraph (A)

The first criterion is that the person seeking the exemption did not initiate the circulation of the infringing material. Someone else was responsible for placing it on-line. For example, a service provider would not be disqualified under this criterion where a work was placed on-line by a subscriber.

#### Subparagraph (B)

The second criterion is that the person has no control over the content of the material: he or she did not create the material, choose it, or make any changes in it.

#### Subparagraph (C)

The third criterion requires that the person not be the one to decide who will receive the material. The fact that the person may have control over the universe of possible recipients, for example by controlling the list of subscribers to an on-line service or a bulletin board, would not disqualify him or her, since the choice of all subscribers does not determine which subscriber receives which material.

#### Subparagraph (D)

The fourth criterion rules out the possibility of receiving a financial benefit directly from a particular act of infringement. It would prevent someone who obtained a percentage of the revenue on each piece of pirated software transmitted from claiming the benefit of the exemption. It would not, however, bar someone whose financial benefit consisted of charging users of its service by the length of the message (per number of bytes, for example) or by time unit.

<sup>1</sup>That section exempts from liability secondary transmissions made by a carrier who "has no direct or indirect control over the content or selection of the primary transmission or over the particular recipients of the secondary transmission, and whose activities consist solely of providing wires, cables, or other communications channels for the use of others: *Provided*, That the provisions of this clause extend only to the activities of said carrier with respect to secondary transmissions and do not exempt from liability the activities of others with respect to their own primary or secondary transmissions." 17 U.S.C. § 111(a)(3).



*Subparagraph (E)*

The fifth criterion requires that the person not play an active role in encouraging others to use the infringing material. The exemption would not be available to one who affirmatively sponsored, endorsed or advertised the material—acts that are likely to lead to greater dissemination to a wider audience, and therefore greater harm to the copyright owner. Accordingly, such acts should engender some degree of responsibility, and it is reasonable to expect the actor to check the material being recommended (which would not be necessary if the exemption applied). Hyperlinking in and of itself would not be disqualifying under this criterion, to the extent that it is purely informational and directional. If, however, the context or presentation indicates an affirmative recommendation, a higher level of care would be appropriate, and the exemption would not apply.

*Subparagraph (F)*

The sixth and final criterion is a knowledge standard. If the person knows of the infringement, he or she should not be entirely exempt. The level of knowledge required is critical. If the exemption were limited to actual knowledge, it would provide an incentive to look the other way and deliberately avoid learning of the infringement. At the other extreme, a general negligence standard would be too broad to the extent that it could be interpreted to impose an affirmative duty to investigate, since service providers should not have a duty to investigate every transmission taking place through their services.

Subparagraph (F) therefore adopts an intermediate standard: if a person becomes aware of information that causes suspicion, he or she should have some obligation to check further. Such information may be obtained through the receipt of a notice from a copyright owner, or may be provided independently in the course of ordinary business. For example, a service provider who learns that a subscriber is operating a bulletin board called "PIRATES-R-US," or "POP MUSIC FOR FREE," and makes no inquiries and takes no further action should not obtain the benefit of this exemption. On the other hand, the service provider should not have to check sites or transmissions in the absence of obtaining such information. In other words, a red flag should not be ignored, but a provider should not ordinarily be required to go out and search for red flags.

The bill incorporates these concepts in two clauses within paragraph (a)(1). Clause (i) of subparagraph (F) sets a general standard of "does not know, and is not aware by notice or other information indicating, that the material is infringing." The language "is not aware" is a higher standard than "is in possession of facts," since a person may have facts within his possession, for example in a file somewhere, without being aware of them. The information need only indicate that the material is infringing, however; this would cover the type of red flag discussed above, and would not require such evidence as would be sufficient to establish infringement in a court of law. A separate sentence at the end of paragraph (a) states explicitly that "[n]othing in [that clause] shall impose an affirmative obligation to seek information described in such clause." In other words, the knowledge standard in the clause does not itself impose any obligation to monitor for infringement or to search out suspicious information. Once one becomes aware of such information, however, one may have an obligation to check further.

The other way to meet the subparagraph (F) criterion is if the person is prohibited by

law from accessing the material. For example, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act makes it unlawful to access private e-mail communications. 18 U.S.C. §2510 *et seq.* In such circumstances, the exemption would be available without reference to the person's level of knowledge.

Many of the circumstances proposed for exemptions last year in the course of negotiating draft bill language would fall within the scope of this general exemption. The exemption would clearly cover the mere provision of physical facilities, such as lines or cables. It would also cover various activities that have been referred to as "mere conduit services," including the provision of local access, local exchange, telephone toll, trunk line, or backbone services, since the concept of "mere conduit" was similarly based on the passive, non-participatory nature of the activity. In addition, acts of hosting or operating bulletin boards and web pages would fall within the scope of the exemption where the operator does not have the requisite level of control or knowledge of infringing postings or content. The transmission of private or real time electronic communications such as e-mail would be exempted where the law does not permit the service provider to access the communication.

Paragraph (a)(2) deals with contributory infringement. Because contributory infringement, unlike direct infringement and vicarious liability, contains a knowledge requirement, it is treated separately. This subparagraph substantially limits remedies available for contributory infringement for conduct that qualifies for the exemption from liability for direct infringement or vicarious liability under subparagraph (1). In such cases, no monetary remedies will be available, and a court could issue an injunction requiring acts such as removing or blocking access to infringing material, only to the extent such acts are technically feasible and economically reasonable. The rationale for not barring injunctive relief is that a person who knows or should know of the infringement, and can reasonably do something to prevent it, should continue to have some legal incentive to do so. In many cases, a service provider may be the only person capable as a practical matter of preventing infringing material from being transmitted around the world, or the only one over whom a copyright owner can obtain jurisdiction.

Paragraphs (b) through (d) are intended to protect providers when they remove, disable or block access to material and remove possible disincentives to cooperate with copyright owners by taking steps to prevent infringement. These paragraphs ensure that a person who responds to information indicating infringement by removing, disabling or blocking access to material will not be penalized for having done so.

Paragraph (b) is essentially a "Good Samaritan" defense. It ensures that a person who acts responsibly upon obtaining information indicating an infringement, whether by receiving a notice or otherwise, and removes, disables or blocks access to the relevant material, cannot be held liable for having done so. This section would block claims by anyone based on the take-down itself (e.g., interference with contract claims).

Paragraph (c) preserves potential legal defense. It ensures that whatever decision is made by a person who has obtained information indicating infringement, whether to remove, disable or block access to the material, or not to do so because of a potential defense, cannot be used against that person in an infringement suit.

Paragraph (d) protects against losses caused by reliance on false information. It

provides penalties for knowing material misrepresentations that material on-line is infringing, allowing the recovery of any damages incurred by a person who relies on such misrepresentations in removing, disabling or blocking access to such material.

## COMPARISON TO EXISTING LAW

This exemption supplements doctrines of existing law, including contributory infringement and vicarious liability; it does not supersede or alter them. In some circumstances, it would exempt a person from liability where these doctrines would lead to the same result. In other circumstances, it would provide greater immunity, exempting a person where existing law would impose liability. While some of the criteria in paragraph (a)(1) are similar to some of the requirements for contributory infringement or vicarious liability, they are also narrower in certain respects, as described below. This exemption is not intended to indicate to the courts that the elements of contributory infringement or vicarious liability should be narrowed generally, or interpreted in accordance with the language of this provision. The intent is to continue the common law doctrines unchanged, and allow the courts to continue to develop them.

*Direct infringement*

Under current law, a person is liable for direct infringement who engages in an act within section 106 without authorization, with or without knowledge of infringement. The exemption would remove liability for a person who engages in such acts in the course of transmitting or otherwise providing access to material on-line in a passive, limited way, without the defined level of knowledge.

*Vicarious liability*

Under current law, a person is vicariously liable for the infringement of another if he has the right and ability to control the infringement, and receives a direct financial benefit, with or without knowledge of infringement. The exemption would add an element of actual control, require a more direct link to an infringement, and add a knowledge requirement. It would thus remove liability for a person who has no actual control of the placement of the material on-line, its content, or its particular recipients, if he or she receives no direct financial benefit attributable to a particular infringement, and does not have the defined level of knowledge.

*Contributory infringement*

Under current law, a person is liable for contributory infringement who induces, causes or materially contributes to another's infringement, knowing or having reason to know of the infringement. The exemption would remove monetary liability, and place some limits on injunctive relief, where the contribution to the infringement is of a passive nature and where the person has no actual knowledge and is not aware of information indicating infringement (but meets the lower standard of having reason to know).

Hearings on this bill will be conducted in the Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, which I chair, simultaneously with a bill to implement the WIPO treaties negotiated in Geneva, Switzerland in December, 1996. The implementation legislation will be introduced soon after the introduction of this bill. It is my intent to move the bills together.

TRIBUTE TO COL. THOMAS F.  
GIOCONDA, U.S. AIR FORCE

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated U.S. Air Force officer as he departs from his post as the legislative assistant for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to become the Principal Deputy Secretary of Energy, and U.S. Military Representative for Defense Programs.

Col. Thomas F. Gioconda deserves our tribute. He has been connected with the Congress in one position or another for over 8 years of his distinguished 27 year Air Force career. His career accomplishments reflect the type of leader this Nation has depended upon for over 200 years during peace and conflict. I would like to take a moment to highlight Tom's career milestones.

A native of Philadelphia, PA, Colonel Gioconda is a graduate of St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA, class of 1970. Colonel Gioconda also earned a master's degree in school administration from Seton Hall University, and a masters degree in business administration from the University of Montana. His military career began in 1970 with his first assignment to Malstrom AFB, MT, where he served as a missile launch officer. After 4 years as a wing missile operations crew instructor, he served as an AFOTC instructor at his alma mater for 2 years, followed by another 2 years at New Jersey Institute of Technology. He then served as a missile operations instructor and section chief at the 4315th Combat Crew Training Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA.

Recognizing his leadership skills, he was assigned to headquarters, Strategic Air Command, as a plans and programs officer, and later became the Congressional Liaison Branch Chief. His exceptional performance in this assignment lead to a follow on tour to headquarters, U.S. Air Force at the Pentagon where he served as a Congressional Affairs Action Officer for the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations. During this tour he was selected for squadron command. Colonel Gioconda assumed command of the 510th Strategic Missile Squadron at Whiteman AFB, MO. His squadron was charged with the one-of-a-kind Emergency Rocket Communication System [ECRS] mission. While in command, Colonel Gioconda and his unit hosted the first visit of the Commander in Chief of the Soviet Rocket Forces to an operational U.S. missile launch control center. After successfully completing his command tour, Colonel Gioconda was hand picked to be a legislative assistant to the chairman and vice-chairman.

He has been the principal liaison officer to Congress for both General Powell and General Shalikashvili during momentous times in our Nation's history—the end of the cold war, Operations Desert Storm, Provide Promise, Provide Hope, Provide Comfort, Southern Watch, Deny Flight, and Restore Democracy, Joint Endeavor, as well as countless other military operations and deployments. Tom has accompanied me on factfinding visits to the former Republic of Yugoslavia. Tom was always on top of the issues of the day. I and many others of this body have depended on

him for complete, timely, sound, and accurate information and advice.

Colonel Gioconda has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four oak leaf clusters), three Air Force Commendation Medals, the Air Force Achievement Medal, the Combat Readiness Medal, the Outstanding Voluntary Service Medal, and the Command Missile Badge. He is married to the former Anita Pamerter of Great Falls, MT, and has three sons, Thomas, Tony, and T.J.

In December 1995, Colonel Gioconda was selected for promotion to brigadier general. He will be promoted on August 1, 1997.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor and personal privilege for me to present his credentials and this tribute to Col. Thomas F. Gioconda before the Congress today. It is clear, through his record of accomplishment and his command assignments, that he is someone dedicated to the peace and freedom this Nation enjoys today. All his actions reflect a professional Air Force officer with the clear sense of honor, integrity, and purpose found in the finest military officers of this Nation. We wish him every success in what I know will be a bright future. May he always have fair winds and blue skies.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BOB GRAVES

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Bob Graves. Casual acquaintances knew Bob as a dairy farmer from an old Colorado family. His early days were spent on a cattle ranch in Bellvue, CO. He became a veterinarian, worked to increase the family herd and operation, and built Graves Dairy. Many knew him for early mornings spent having breakfast at Vern's in LaPorte, dressed in Levi's, eyes shaded by bushy gray eyebrows. He always had a ready and realistic comment on the subject of the day. Others knew him as a savvy and tenacious opponent in local political battles. He stood up for private property rights, farming and ranching interests, and other ideals he held high. If you fought with him, you did so with admiration. If you fought against him, you did so with trepidation.

But most don't know the Bob who turned a personal tragedy—his daughter's death from leukemia—into hope and a future for thousands and thousands of people around the world. His daughter was one of the recipients of a bone marrow transplant before the medical community understood how critical it was to match donor and recipient marrow. While the operation was not successful, the Laura Graves Foundation, founded in her memory, has become a \$50 million research organization that has greatly improved the chances for leukemia patients. He and the foundation created the matching bone marrow donor program in this country and across the world.

Although grieving over his own loss, he and his wife, Sherry, devoted their lives to this priceless project. Bringing together scientists, politicians, public relations experts, and cancer victims, he worked to improve what had al-

ready been started. Building upon the sponsorship of the American Red Cross, he managed to create a board of directors who were household names. Their reputations, the progress of better funded research, and constant persistence, created the life-saving bone marrow program. He brought together Senator Kennedy and Admiral Zumwalt, Nobel Prize winners and corporations, the American Navy and Russian Chernobyl victims. He and the foundation brought common goals and methods to the scientific community in China, England, Russia, the United States, and elsewhere. After a politically prominent and wealthy American family circumvented the donor system and bought their way to the front of the line, Bob demanded a fool-proof system that would treat all victims equally.

We all enjoy knowing about people who strive to make the news, those who fight for their 15 minutes for fame, but we don't often know about people who just quietly persevere in order to save us and our loved ones. That was Bob Graves. He had a brilliant mind surpassed only by his compassionate heart. When he died, he was creating another foundation—the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Foundation to bring together the worldwide scientific community working on "chronic wasting disease" in wildlife, "mad cow" disease in livestock, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in people. Again, he was starting the project with his own money in order to benefit people and industry.

Bob Graves, D.V.M., was one person who left the world a better place.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ON  
CHINESE INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

**HON. BILL McCOLLUM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill I am introducing today. It is quite simple in that it would require the Director of Central Intelligence and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to jointly prepare an annual report on the intelligence activities of the People's Republic of China—and most specifically, those which are directed against or affect the interests of the United States.

Some of the news reports on the fundraising scandal suggest that the People's Republic of China has apparently decided to take a more aggressive approach toward influencing American politics. This is occurring at all levels of our political system through the use of legitimate means such as lobbying as well as covert influence operations. At the same time, the Chinese are also relying heavily on the success of their economic espionage efforts to make their economy more competitive with ours. We also have concerns, that I think most Americans share, with the increasing buildup of the Chinese military operations and capabilities, and the potential that that poses a threat to our national security interests in the Pacific rim region.

A China specialist at the Department of Defense, summarized the growing threat posed by China's intelligence agencies by saying:

The Ministry of State Security is an aggressive intelligence service which is coming

of age in the international arena. The combination of a relatively stagnant economy and an increasingly competitive global economic environment will force China to rely more heavily on the illegal acquisition of high technology modernization—Arms production and sales are increasingly being used to gain hard currency and expand global political influence. The MSS will be required to produce intelligence to support this assertive role in the global, commercial and political environments—Western democracies such as the U.S. must adjust the focus of their clandestine intelligence and counter-intelligence operations if they are to meet the MSS's forward posture effectively.

The annual report would document significant developments involving China's Ministry of State Security, the Military Intelligence Department of the People's Liberation Army, and other Chinese intelligence entities operating against the United States. The report is specifically intended to cover trends in the following areas: first, political, military, and economic espionage by Chinese intelligence services; second, intelligence activities designed to gain political influence, including activities undertaken or coordinated by the United Front Works Department of the Chinese Communist Party; third, efforts to gain direct or indirect influence through commercial or noncommercial intermediaries subject to control by the People's Republic of China, including enterprises controlled by the People's Liberation Army; and fourth, disinformation and press manipulation by the Government of the People's Republic of China against the United States.

Various agencies from the intelligence and law enforcement communities will be tasked to provide input on Chinese intelligence activities within the United States and elsewhere. Some of the agencies being asked to contribute to the annual report will include the following: Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense, Department of Justice, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of State, and the Department of the Treasury.

The classified version of the annual report will be provided to both the House and Senate. An unclassified version will be prepared so that the American public can be provided with a general summary of the nature of the Chinese intelligence threat to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is very crucial yet very simple. It is not one that requires anything more than a gathering of information for us, but I think it is critical information for us. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall vote 267. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 267.

#### APPOINTMENT OF DAVID STRAUSS TO BE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

#### HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the appointment of David Strauss, a fellow Valley City, ND, native and close friend, as Executive Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation [PBGC].

I couldn't be more pleased to see such a good friend named to such an important Government post. Throughout his career, David has been an outstanding public servant deeply devoted to advancing the interests of working families. In this exciting new position, David will continue that work as the Government's top official responsible for protecting the pension security of 42 million American workers and retirees participating in about 50,000 private-sector pension plans.

David comes to the PBGC with extensive management and policy experience as deputy chief of staff to Vice President AL GORE since 1994. In that position, he played a major management role, developed policy options and advised the Vice President on a broad range of economic and domestic policy issues including wage and workplace protection, retirement security, health care, welfare, and trade.

Ensuring that Americans can look forward to a financially secure retirement has emerged as one of the most important public policy issues of the day. As head of the PBGC, David will be a leader in crafting our Nation's response to this retirement security challenge. And with his unique background as a top-notch manager and policymaker, it's hard to imagine someone better suited to this role.

Prior to his position with the Vice President, David served as chief of staff for the late Senator Quentin Burdick of North Dakota and then as staff director of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which Senator Burdick chaired.

Previously, as North Dakota State Executive Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Stabilization and Conservation Service—now the Farm Service Agency—he directed an agency with 53 county offices and 1,200 employees, which administered \$1.3 billion in loans and direct payments to the farmers of North Dakota. During this period, he was recognized with a Special Achievement Award from the Secretary of Agriculture for his managerial skill and for reducing administrative costs despite a workload increase.

David Strauss is a superb choice to head the PBGC and I look forward to working with him on a broad range of retirement security issues. Mr. Speaker, I also submit for the RECORD an article from the Fargo Forum on David's appointment.

[From the Fargo Forum, July 3, 1997]

STRAUSS IN LINE FOR PENSION POSITION

(By Mikkel Pates)

David Strauss, a North Dakota native and deputy chief of staff to Vice President Al Gore, has been picked to be executive director of the government's Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.

Pensions & Investments, the Washington trade paper which broke the story, said the announcement will come any day.

Strauss, 47, was a chief of staff for the late Sen. Quentin Burdick, D-N.D., through most of the 1980's and later for the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for which Burdick was chairman.

He also served briefly as chief of staff for Sens. Jocelyn Burdick, D-N.D., and John Breaux, D-La., before going to his current job in 1994.

Through an aide, Strauss declined to be interviewed about the new post because no official announcement has been made. Sources say the announcement could come later this week or next week.

The PBGC is a non-profit corporation wholly owned by the federal government. The corporation regulates and monitors pension plan insurance programs.

Among other things, it steps in if a pension plan fails and can't pay benefits. It makes up the difference in assets, administers the fund, and distributes the basic benefits.

The agency covers all single-employer and private defined pension plans and some plans between unions and employers. It is administered by a board, of which the Secretary of Labor is chairman, and includes the secretaries of commerce and treasury.

Sources at Pensions & Investments called Strauss a good choice for the job, despite his lack of hands-on experiences in pensions. The post does not require Senate confirmation.

The story quoted Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D., also from Valley City, who said the appointment of a top political aide showed the Clinton administration's commitment to retirement income security.

Officials from the Teamsters, the AFL-CIO, and business lobbyists all sang his praises.

"David Strauss' appointment will provide the PBGC with the kind of political leadership it has never had," said Mark J. Ugoretz, president of the ERISA Industry Committee, a Washington trade group representing the nation's biggest companies.

ERISA is the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

As Gore's aide, Strauss helped develop White House policy options on a range of economic and domestic policies.

He was involved in working on the Retirement Protection Act, signed by Clinton in December 1994.

In a 1994 interview with The Forum Strauss said that his career hinged to some degree on Gore's future.

"If Al Gore is re-elected vice president and then runs for president in the year 2000, I very much would want to be a part of all of that," he said at the time.

Strauss grew up in Harvey and Valley City, and in the 1970's became one of the state's most successful political strategists.

Among other things, he was executive director of the Democratic-NPL party from 1975 to 1977.

In 1977, he was named North Dakota executive director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (now the Farm Service Agency).

At the time he was criticized for a lack of farming background for the job.

He later took great pride in winning achievement awards in the agency.

#### NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS CENTER, CASPER, WY

#### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 1997

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, over a century and a half has now passed since the historic

overland migrations of people across America's Western frontier began. Their stories of hardship, perseverance, and courage are legendary, and they figure prominently in the history of the West. The trails they traveled, especially in Wyoming, still remain a visible testimony to the great struggles of these early American pioneers.

During the mid-1800's, Casper, WY, was the only geographic location in the Western United States where the Oregon, Mormon, California, and Pony Express trails, as well as many Indian trails converged. A fork of the Bozeman Trail and the beginnings of the Bridger Trail also originated in Casper. These trails are a distinctive part of our Nation's past and they possess important historical and cultural values representing themes of migration, settlement, transportation, and commerce that shaped the landscape of the West.

Congress has recognized the historical significance of these trails. The National Trails Systems Act, as amended in 1978 and 1992, designates the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California, and Pony Express Trails as "National Historic Trails." The act also directs the Secretary of the Interior to protect, interpret, and manage the remnants of these trails on Federal lands.

While large segments of these trails, and their associated historic sites lie on Bureau of Land Management [BLM] lands in Wyoming, no interpretive center is available in Wyoming, or any adjacent State, to educate the public on the role of these trails in our Nation's history.

In an effort to preserve and interpret this important history, today I am introducing legislation to establish the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center [NHTIC] in Casper, WY. The bill encompasses a unique partnership of Federal and non-Federal interests to jointly construct and operate this Center. These interests include the BLM, the city of Casper, and the nonprofit National Historic Trails Foundation. These entities came together in 1992 to build a center to memorialize and interpret the national historic trails in the West.

The interpretive and educational programs that will be associated with the Trails Center in Casper will enable visitors to discover and appreciate the miles of untouched trails that lie on public lands in the West. The Center will identify and help protect sensitive historic trail remnants to prevent degradation. The National Historic Trails Centers will also provide an opportunity for the BLM to showcase public lands emphasizing the Bureau's commitment to preserve lands of historical value.

Under the cooperative agreement, there is a clear commitment of non-Federal partners to share costs to construct, maintain, and operate the Trails Center. City, State, foundation, and private interests will bear approximately half of the total costs of the project. The city of Casper provided funds to initiate work on the Center. The city has also donated more than 10 acres of prime land overlooking the site of the North Platte River crossings of the historic trails for the Center. Furthermore, the citizens of Casper increased local sales taxes and have raised the required 1.5 million of construction dollars to meet their financial commitment under the cooperative agreement. The State of Wyoming has joined the partnership by giving \$700,000 for the Center. The cooperative agreement also requires non-Federal entities to establish a \$1 million endow-

ment, the interest thereof to maintain exhibits for the life of the Center. The overwhelming amount of non-Federal support for the Center is precisely the kind of cooperation Congress intended in managing and interpreting the historic trails of the Nation.

Under the cooperative agreement, the BLM has an important but limited role in establishing and operating the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center. The BLM has already completed a striking design as well as the engineering blueprints of the Center. With this work completed, the land available, and most of the non-Federal funds in hand, the Center is now ready to construction. This legislation provides congressional authorization of funds for the BLM to do so. Once the Center is completed, the BLM will own and operate the facility. However, with the endowment, the authorization to charge visitors a modest entrance fee, and commitments for volunteer staffing, the facility will be largely self-sustaining from a financial perspective. This is important in view of the present and anticipated future funding restrictions of the Federal Government.

In Wyoming, we are experiencing great interest in the historic trails that cross the State. In 1992, a year when visitation to Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park was down, the Wyoming Department of Tourism reported an increase in tourism along the Oregon Trail route during the sesquicentennial of that trail. This year is the sesquicentennial of the Mormon Pioneer Trail. BLM officials have estimated that between 200,000 and 1 million visitors participated in trials events in Wyoming this year. We expect similar interest in trails during the sesquicentennials of the California and Pony Express historic trails. In truth, an increasing number of Americans are discovering, enjoying, and learning the history of these treks and are seeking to experience natural settings, landmarks, and physical remains of the trails.

I am pleased with the broad level of support the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center enjoys. As noted earlier, the city of Casper and the State of Wyoming have provided tremendous assistance to this effort—for that I thank them. The Governor of Wyoming, Jim Geringer, as well as Wyoming's former Governor, Mike Sullivan, have endorsed the Center from the beginning. Wyoming's U.S. Senators, MIKE ENZI and CRAIG THOMAS, support the project. Especially gratifying has been the support and encouragement from interests outside of Wyoming, such as the Oregon-California Trails Association. I deeply appreciate the support of my respected colleague from Utah, Representative JIM HANSEN, who is co-sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center is in the public interest. The project contains the best elements of private and public cooperation. The construction and operation of this Trails Center is altogether consistent with the BLM's criteria for projects of this kind. I urge my colleagues to help advance our efforts to preserve and interpret a significant chapter of American history by lending their support for this legislation.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE ANDERSON MONARCHS BASEBALL TEAM

**HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of young athletes from south Philadelphia who have just returned from a barnstorming baseball tour in tribute to the late, great Jackie Robinson. The Anderson Monarchs are a team of 15 boys between the ages 8 and 12 who play in the RBI, Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities, League of Philadelphia. The team is named for Jackie Robinson's Negro League team, the Kansas City Monarchs, and plays its home games at the Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the heart of south Philadelphia.

Leaving Philadelphia last week in a restored 1947 bus, the team drove west to participate in the Kansas City Royal's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues. The team, sponsored by the Philadelphia Phillies, Mellon PSFS and Acme Markets, embarked on a 13-day journey that began with a game in Brooklyn, NY, the former home of Jackie Robinson's Dodgers. From Brooklyn, the Monarchs traveled to Cleveland, where they participated in All-Star game festivities, then played a game against a local team. From there it was off to Detroit, Chicago, and Iowa, where they visited the site of the Field of Dreams, made famous by the movie of that name. Many of these youngsters have never been far from the urban landscape of Philadelphia, so traveling through the rural Midwest was quite an experience for them.

In Kansas City, the Monarchs visited the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, where they were introduced to Hall-of-Famer, Buck O'Neill, a former Monarchs teammate of Jackie Robinson. Meeting this living legend and hearing his bittersweet tales of the Negro Leagues was the high point of the trip for many of the young ballplayers.

From Kansas City the team bus wound its way back, with stops for games in St. Louis, Louisville, and Pittsburgh, before returning to Philadelphia. Mr. Speaker, these youngsters are more than just ballplayers, they are ambassadors for Philadelphia, and I have received reports that they have represented our city with great honor throughout their travels. They have learned about the legacy of segregation in baseball, and they have taught others of these lessons along the way. In honoring the anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the Major Leagues, the Monarchs have been a major success. They have demonstrated admirably the sentiment engraved on Jackie Robinson's gravestone that, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." In recognition of their successful tour, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Philadelphia's Anderson Monarchs.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID L. CINI

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 1997*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to pay tribute to David L.

Cini, a man who will long be remembered for his service to his family, to Connecticut, and to his beloved town of East Lyme. Mr. Cini passed away yesterday after a long illness.

The incredible courage he showed these last years has truly been inspiring. Despite physical challenges that would daunt most people, Mr. Cini never stopped working. Just last month I joined him on the town's waterfront to announce that a long-held goal of securing funding for a boardwalk had finally been achieved. For years he has worked to bring sensible development to the waterfront area of East Lyme. When we finally open the boardwalk, it will be with great sorrow that he will not be there to open it with us. I hope that the town will see fit to build that boardwalk in his honor.

Mr. Cini was not well, but he never stopped. He conducted the town's business and worked to ensure that everyone he came into contact with agreed with him that East Lyme was the best place to live. He passed away while still first selectman, which is, I think, how he preferred it.

His legacy in the town will be one of sound management, low taxes, and sensible improvements. He has been a tireless fighter for his community, representing it since 1980 as a board of education member, a selectman, and for the last eight years, first selectman. During part of that time, he was active with the Council of Governments, a regional coordinating group on Connecticut's south shore, even serving as chair at one point. He brought good honor to the town of East Lyme every day he came to work.

Certainly we will all miss David, but those who will miss him most—and in whom his legacy will endure—will be his wife Sally and his children: Heather, Holly, and Matt. Matt is following in his father's footsteps by serving eastern Connecticut's community as a valued member of my staff. When I see Matt at work, I see a bit of David; he is certainly his father's son.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday David L. Cini will be laid to rest in his beloved town. Requiescat in pace.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL BARRETT**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2158) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to share with my colleagues a small town's recent experience with the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] which serves up yet another reason why the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,

and Liability Act [CERCLA], commonly called Superfund, must be reformed and reformed soon.

Recently, EPA advised a community in the south-central part of my congressional district, Hastings, NE, that it intends to present the city and three or four potentially responsible parties [PRP's] with a bill for the costs EPA incurred at the Hastings Groundwater Contamination Site. EPA's Region 7 Administrator has confirmed that in the next 2 to 3 months EPA intends to demand payment for costs incurred between 1983 and 1994. EPA incurred these costs in its investigation, analysis, and study of contamination in Hastings. The bill apparently even will include EPA's indirect expenses, such as employee benefits, office costs, expenses, travel, and lodging—Believe it or not!

As you can imagine, this situation greatly alarms Hastings and me, since past costs for the site amount to more than \$20 million. EPA estimates the city would be responsible for \$1 to \$1.5 million, and the PRP's would be responsible for the balance. Unfortunately, EPA is not expected to allocate responsibility for these past costs among the various PRP's. Thus, the PRP's and the city will need to voluntarily allocate or litigate. As you know, litigation has been much more common under Superfund. Given the large amounts of money at stake, this could become a fight for survival.

You're probably thinking, so what's the big deal? I'll tell you—Hastings is a small town with a population of 23,000! The city collects approximately \$5 million in sales and property taxes annually. The city can't afford a \$1 to \$1.5 million bill. It can't raise taxes because the Nebraska legislature has placed a zero-spending lid on all Nebraska cities in an effort to curb taxes, and it can't afford to engage in costly litigation with the other PRP's. The city can ill-afford to lose its business base because it was forced to sue to reduce its liability.

The PRP's can't afford to pay the balance of the bill. It could bankrupt them. I don't know exactly what dollar amount would force the PRP's out of business, but any large bill—even if it does not amount to \$20 million—could severely hamper future business expansion and new job creation in the community.

This is a perfect example of why Superfund, and especially retroactive liability, needs to be reformed. Many communities are familiar with similar situations—a large portion of the pollution at Hastings occurred early in the century, and any pollution that did occur happened after hazardous waste laws were enacted. The disposal of the responsible materials was done according to the law of the day. Since then, companies have been bought and sold, the city's management has come and gone, and as a result, there are no real polluters now in Hastings—despite EPA's efforts to identify them.

This should be a warning to all of us. This is not an isolated case. This could happen in any district.

But what makes me so frustrated, Mr. Chairman, is that it's our fault. Congress passed Superfund. Congress has not been able to reform it, even though many of my colleagues have been working with each other and the administration to reform it for many years. It's a complex issue, but it shouldn't take this long or be this hard to do.

Often I question EPA's judgment, especially in Hastings' situation, and know the agency

has been overzealous or irrational with its regulations and enforcement of Superfund. However, I realize EPA has a bad law to enforce. But why should Congress keep giving EPA funds to implement a bad law? And what incentive does EPA have to work with Congress to reauthorize Superfund if we keep it so well funded? Congress must stand up to the pressure to simply throw money at a problem without understanding what we are dealing with. For example, why haven't we asked about the true nature of risk from hazardous waste sites, and why haven't we had a national dialogue on how to prioritize spending on Superfund sites?

It's time to ask these questions and to reform Superfund. The Bipartisan Budget Agreement requires that Congress enact comprehensive reform before there is any increase in funding. I urge my colleagues to resist efforts to increase funding for this program and to support Superfund reform.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 15, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House of the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to recognize the good work of a local organization in my congressional district, the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, and the contribution they have made to one of our Nation's memorials. Included in this bill are funds for the National Park Service, which oversees our national memorials, including the Korean War Veterans' Memorial here in Washington, DC.

The Cleveland Chapter of the KWVA has an active membership and its leadership includes Mr. Joe Shearer, who serves as second vice president. Recently, Mr. Shearer brought to my attention and to the attention of Senator GLENN and others in the Ohio congressional delegation the troubling story of the condition of the Korean War Veterans' Memorial. Apparently the memorial was in a state of disrepair due to problems associated with poor construction and engineering.

In true American "can-do" spirit, Mr. Shearer and some of his fellow veterans drove to Washington, DC, to personally inform me of this situation. Letters were sent to the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service expressing concerns about the memorial. Due to the efforts of Mr. Shearer and other veterans, I have been assured by the National Park Service that repairs are currently underway and adequate funds needed to repair the Korean War Memorial have been made available.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial is a tribute to those who served in "the forgotten war." Our Korean war veterans deserve our utmost respect and deserve a memorial in

which they can be proud. I applaud Mr. Shearer and his colleague's efforts in helping to memorialize the sacrifice that was made by our Korean war veterans. I am proud to stand in salute of a veteran who continues to honor the memories of those soldiers who gave their lives in the Korean war.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. WALTER H. CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 1997*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2158) making appropriations for the Departments of Veter-

ans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this bill and would like to commend Chairman LEWIS and the ranking member, Mr. STOKES, for their diligent work on the important programs covered in this legislation.

As a strong supporter of NASA's Mission to Planet Earth, I am very pleased that the bill before us provides full funding for this critically important program.

Mission to Planet Earth will expand our knowledge of ourselves, our Earth and its incredibly complex environmental systems. I am convinced that we should never shrink from the opportunity to grasp such critically important information.

But MTPE will be more than a search for knowledge. With its series of orbiting satellites, set to begin launching next year, Mission to Planet Earth's ability to accurately monitor and predict long-term climate variability will have

great benefits for large sectors of our economy, including such diverse industries as agriculture, financial services, insurance, and disaster management.

The ability to predict droughts, floods, and other cataclysmic natural events will reap huge benefits in lives and dollars for years to come. MTPE information will not only be useful for long-range forecasting, but will have daily applications as well. In agriculture, to use one example, farmers will be better able to anticipate irrigation and harvesting needs, and disease control and eradication requirements.

As NASA programs add to our knowledge of the entire solar system—with the spectacular exploits on Mars by *Sojourner* as the most recent example—we must not lose sight of all that we still do not know about our own glorious world. MTPE will help fill in some of those gaps about our environmental systems, improving our quality of life here on Earth while we continue our exploration of the stars and planets